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238 South Wolfe Street
Baltimore, MD 21231
February 5, 2007

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

ATTN: Alicia M. Torres

Dear Ms. Torres,

I am submitting these papers in response to your Office Action, mailed on December 6, 2006, rejecting all claims of U.S. Patent Application No. 10/715,192 (the '192 application). Enclosed are an introductory remarks section, containing further arguments for patentability, and a copy of the amended written description and claims as currently amended or previously presented in the response to one or more previous Office Actions.

In order to provide the necessary structural and functional detail to the claims of the '192 application to distinguish these features from those of Beranek et al, 2,478,558, I have amended written description and claims to specifically set forth the position and orientation of the grass guide with respect to both the cutting blades and the grass to be cut when the mower is functioning. Additionally, the structure of the chassis, wheels and grass guide has been further defined in the specification. The amended language provides sufficient detail to distinguish the features of the '192 invention thought by the examiner to be disclosed by Beranek et al. No amendments have been made to any of the drawings at this time, so no drawing papers are submitted herewith. The currently amended and previously presented claims are in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c). New arguments for patentability are presented here, but no new matter is contained in this response.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C § 103

A. Correction of Indefinite Claim Language

It is evident from the examiner's construction of the language of Claims 18 and 19 of the '192 application that the language of those claims may be subject to a differing interpretation than that intended by the applicants. The examiner's rejection of all claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103 is dependent, inter alia, upon the assertion that Beranek et al. contains the following feature:

- A grass guide (35) that bends to constrain the grass to be cut by the blade (23, by enclosing the grass inside the guide, the guide constrains the grass)